

For more information regarding employer requirements for respiratory protection, refer to Appendix 1, Pesticide Safety Information Series (PSIS), Leaflet A-5, “Respiratory Protection” and the “*Generic Guidelines for Development of a Respiratory Protection Program*” document available from DPR’s Worker Health and Safety Branch.

Exemptions:

- Employees who voluntarily use dust filtering respirators (dust masks) provided by the employer.
- Employees who voluntarily use any respirator not provided by the employer.
- PCAs or professional foresters and their employees performing crop adviser tasks. (3CCR § 6720)
- Consumer products see 3CCR § 6720(e).

21. Medical Evaluation 3CCR § 6739(q)(s)

Scope: Employers of persons wearing respirators when required by any pesticide labeling, restricted material permit condition, regulations or the employer. Employers of employees that voluntarily use respirators supplied by the employer.

Verify that there is a medical recommendation form, signed by a physician or health care professional, for each employee assigned to perform work that requires wearing a respirator. Does it allow the employee to wear a respirator? Records generated from online evaluations are acceptable but must identify the physician or licensed health care professional and the evaluated employee.

The physician or health care professional will likely keep the medical evaluation questionnaires for each employee assigned to perform work that requires wearing a respirator, as the information it contains may be considered confidential under the American Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). It is not necessary to inspect the questionnaires.

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- PCAs or professional foresters and their employees performing crop adviser tasks. (3CCR § 6720)
- Consumer products see 3CCR § 6720(e).

22. Fit Test Records 3CCR § 6739(p)(2)

Scope: Employers of persons wearing respirators when required by any pesticide labeling, restricted material permit condition, regulations or the employer.

Ask the employer how he/she performs employee fit testing. Ask what procedure is used to assure that respirators are cleaned and sanitized and where the equipment is stored.

Review the fit test records and verify that they contain the required information:

- Name of employee
- Date and type of test
- Specific type of respirator
- Test results

Exemptions:

- Employees who use any respirator in accordance with voluntary respirator provisions.
- Employees who voluntarily use any respirator not provided by the employer.
- PCAs or professional foresters and their employees performing crop adviser tasks. (3CCR § 6720)
- Consumer products see 3CCR § 6720(e).

23. Respirators Inspected 3CCR § 6739(j)(1)

Scope:

- Employers that maintain routine-use respirators when required by any pesticide labeling, restricted material permit condition, regulation or the employer.
- Employers that maintain emergency-use respirators.
- Employers of employees that voluntarily use respirators supplied by the employer.

Verify that routine-use respirators are inspected before each use and during cleaning.

Verify that, when SCBA are used, at least one routine use SCBA cylinder at the use site starts the day at 80% of capacity or greater. Emergency-use SCBA must be maintained at 100% of capacity.

Verify that respirators maintained for stand-by or emergency use are inspected at least monthly and according to the manufacturer's recommendations. A record of the most recent inspection shall be maintained on the respirator or its storage container. Look for the required tags or labels; do they indicate that the emergency use and escape-only respirators have been inspected regularly?

Verify that emergency respirators are stored in clearly marked containers accessible to the work area in a manner that they can be safely utilized in an emergency. [3CCR § 6739(i)]

Exemptions:

- Employees who voluntarily use any respirator not provided by the employer.
- Employees who voluntarily use dust filtering respirators (dust masks) provided by the employer.
- PCAs or professional foresters and their employees performing crop adviser tasks. (3CCR § 6720)
- Consumer products see 3CCR § 6720(e).